

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Struggle for Power in China

### Civil War

- Breaks out between the nationalist and communist parties.
- Communists exiled by nationalist government and forced to make a 6,000-mile trek (Long March) to a new headquarters north of China.
- Thousands of communists died on the journey.

### Temporary Truce

- The two parties joined together to fight against the Japanese in WWII, but civil war continues after.
- Democratic Nationalists were backed by the United States.
- Communist supported by Chinese peasants.
- With peasant support Mao was able to defeat the nationalists in 1949.

**Communism BrainPop Question:** Why did many Chinese peasants think Communism was a good idea for China? They would have liked the idea of everyone getting money distributed equally.

### Communist Rule

- Mao creates a **totalitarian** state (Every aspect of the citizen's lives was controlled by the communist government):
  - Seized all land, farms, & factories
  - Owned all housing & decided where people would live
  - Prohibited religious worship

## **Propaganda Use**

- Mao used **propaganda** (forms of media used to spread and support a policy, idea, or cause) to make Mao Zedong a popular hero in the eyes of the Chinese people.
- Used posters and Little Red book Quotations from Chairman Mao.

## **Problems under Mao**

- Forced people to live as peasants
- Religious worship prohibited
- Closed many schools and universities and added Communist curriculum.
- 1960 Famine results in 30 million dead
- Opponents of Mao killed or imprisoned

## **1976 Communist changes**

- After Mao's death, new communist regime allows some economic freedom.
- However, they continue to restrict political and religious freedoms.
- 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre occurs during a student Pro-democracy protest. Several thousand killed or wounded.
- Many countries struggle with relationship with China because of their lack of human rights.